

BUREAU OF MEDICAL SERVICES

Administering the largest total health care program in the
Public Health Service

- HOSPITALS AND CLINICS
- EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES
- COAST GUARD MEDICAL SERVICES
- FEDERAL EMPLOYEE OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH
- BUREAU OF PRISONS MEDICAL PROGRAM
- EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM
- OFFICE OF WORKER'S COMPENSATION MEDICAL PROGRAM



THE BUREAU OF MEDICAL SERVICES

administers the largest and most sophisticated direct medical care program in the Public Health Service. Supported by a staff of some 6,000 professional, technical and administrative personnel, BMS, through its Divisions of Hospitals and Clinics, Coast Guard Medical Services, Federal Employee Occupational Health and Emergency Medical Services, provides:

- . .direct health care to merchant seamen, active duty and retired members of the Uniformed Services and other groups specified by Federal statute.
- . .occupational health services for Federal employees.
- . .national leadership and assistance in developing comprehensive emergency medical services systems.

The Bureau is responsible for many other direct health care activities, including a comprehensive medical program for some 25,000 Federal inmates in the 25 hospitals and five dispensaries administered by the Federal Bureau of Prisons for its 40 penal institutions.

BMS also conducts an Employee Assistance Program on alcoholism, drug abuse and mental health, which develops, coordinates and operates a counseling and referral program for employees of the Health Services Administration, PHS. Another BMS responsibility is providing assistance to the Office of Worker's Compensation Medical Program. Physicians detailed by BMS to OWCMP district offices throughout the U.S. assist and advise on matters concerning medical care of injured employ-

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ees and in adjudicating claims received. They also conduct studies of new and unusual occupational diseases.

The Division of Hospitals and Clinics

The word "history" is synonymous with the Division of Hospitals and Clinics, for it is DHC that administers the oldest continuous hospital system in America, which formed the nucleus of today's Public Health Service. It was the act "for the relief of sick and disabled seamen," signed by President John Adams, in 1798, that originally established the U.S. Marine Hospitals under the Marine Hospital System, with the Boston Marine Hospital the first in the new system. For more than 150 years the system flourished, slowly expanding its orbit into broad new fields of public health that led, in 1912, to the establishment of the U.S. Public Health Service. In 1951, the marine hospitals were redesignated U.S. Public Health Service hospitals.

Although today direct patient care continues to be its principal mission, DHC is involved in numerous important related activities, including clinical and biomedical research, as well as professional training for physicians, dentists, pharmacists, nurses, medical record administrators and other ancillary personnel. The Division also trains physician's assistants, medical technologists, laboratory assistants and numerous other technical health aides. Stressing the growing importance of health services research as an integral part of its health care system, the Division maintains HSR units in its Baltimore, New Orleans and Seattle hospitals.

Aware also of its community role, DHC is committed to assisting communities located near its medical facilities in fulfilling their health needs.

The present hospital-clinic system includes eight PHS general medical and surgical hospitals located at Baltimore, Boston, Nassau Bay, New Orleans, Norfolk, San Francisco, Seattle and Staten Island, N.Y., and a specialty hospital for Hansen's disease at Carville, Louisiana.

Supporting the hospitals with a wide range of ambulatory services are 28 PHS outpatient clinics located at: Mobile, Ala.; San Diego and San Pedro, Cal.; Washington, D.C.; Jacksonville, Miami and Tampa, Fla.; Atlanta and Savannah, Ga.; Honolulu, HI.; Chicago, Ill.; Portland, Me.; Detroit, Mich.; St. Louis, Mo.; Buffalo and New York, N.Y.; Cleveland and Cincinnati, OH.; Portland, Oreg.; Philadelphia and Pittsburgh, Pa.; San Juan, P.R.; Charleston, S.C.; Memphis, Tenn.; Galveston, Houston and Port Arthur, Tex.; and Charlotte Amalie, V.I.

In addition, some 300 contract physicians provide health care services to specified beneficiaries in areas where PHS has no facilities.

The Division of Coast Guard Medical Services

Medical care of the U.S. Coast Guard—the Nation's oldest, continuous seagoing service—is a statutory responsibility of the PHS. This Division provides comprehensive health services at both shore and floating units to active and retired coastguardsmen and their dependents. BMS personnel are



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assigned full time to render medical care to shore and aviation facilities in the continental U.S., and, for shorter periods, to provide medical support to seagoing commands where medical officers are required. In addition, the Division administers the U.S. Coast Guard Academy Hospital, at New London, Conn., which provides complete inpatient care.

The Division of Federal Employee Occupational Health

Occupational health services directed toward promoting optimum health among Federal employees are the responsibility of this Division. It operates more than 150 health units in Federal installations throughout the country, which provide emergency treatment of illness or injury. Certain periodic and other health examinations, immunizations, disease detection programs, health counseling and referrals to private physicians and dentists also are part of this program. Physicians and nurses assigned to these health units receive training and experience in occupational health and preventive medicine.

The Division of Emergency Medical Services

This Division provides national leadership for the development, improvement, expansion and integration of comprehensive area emergency medical services systems.

It serves as a focal point within the Department of Health and Human Services for the development of all aspects of

emergency medical services. It disseminates national standards and guidelines for emergency medical services systems and coordinates these activities with governmental agencies, consumer groups and professional organizations. The Division provides technical assistance, consultation and grants and contracts to states, communities and other eligible entities for the development of coordinated systems to improve the delivery of emergency medical services.

The U.S. Public Health Service does not discriminate in employment because of an applicant's sex, race, color, or national origin.

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